

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1977BUENOS00150

1/7/77

Page: 1

Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200000044

R

Jφφ7

<<<<.>>>>

PAGE 01 BUENOS 00150 072033Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-05  
PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IO-13 /059 W  
-----072124Z 107550 /64

R 071936Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8455

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): DECONTROL  
Declassify: ( ) In Part (X) In Full  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 0150

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, AR  
SUBJECT: STATUS OF ARGENTINE NATIONAL JUAN MENDEZ

DECONTROL

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7429 AND OTHERS

1. JULION MENDEZ, FATHER OF JUAN MENDEZ, TOLD EMBOFF JAN. Y THAT A DECREE AUTHORIZING HIS SON TO LEAVE ARGENTINA WAS "ON PRESIDENT VIDELA'S DESK" AND WOULD LIKELY BE SIGNED WITHIN THREE WEEKS. MR. MENDEZ SAID HE RECEIVED THIS NEWS YESTERDAY FROM AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. MR. MENDEZ REFUTED THE INFORMATION GIVEN TO CONG. DRINAN BY INTERIOR OFFICIAL COLONEL FLOURET THAT THERE WERE THREE CHARGES PENDING AGAINST HIS SON. HE SAID THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY ASSURED HIM THAT FLOURET WAS MISINFORMED, THAT THERE WERE NO OUTSTANDING CHARGES AGAINST HIS SON AND THAT HIS "GOOD NAME AND HONOR" WOULD NOT BE IMPUGNED. MR. MENDEZ ALSO REMARKED THAT ALTHOUGH THE JUDGE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASE HAD RECOMMENDED JUAN MENDEZ BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, THE FAMILY DECIDED THAT RATHER THAN CONTINUE TO WORK FOR HIS RELEASE THROUGH THE JUSTICE MINISTRY MENDEZ SHOULD PETITION THE INTERIOR MINISTRY TO LEAVE ARGENTINA AS PERMITTED BY A RECENT DECREE.

2. MR. MENDEZ SAID THAT HIS SON'S PETITION INCLUDED HIS INTENTION TO LEAVE FOR EITHER FRANCE OR THE US, IF AUTHORIZED TO LEAVE ARGENTINA. ALTHOUGH HE INTENDS TO RESETTLE IN THE US, HE WOULD

PAGE 02 BUENOS 00150 072033Z

GO VIA FRANCE IF NECESSARY (I.E., IF HE WERE UNABLE TO GET A US

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 1

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1977BUENOS00150

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200000044

VISA IMMEDIATELY--SEE SEPTTEL ON DISCUSSIONS WITH FONMINISTRY HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP; OR IF THE DECREE SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZES HIS DEPARTURE ONLY TO FRANCE). MR. MENDEZ SAID THAT WHEN THE DECREE IS SIGNED HE WOULD CONTACT THE US EMBASSY TO TRY TO ARRANGE SON'S VISA TO US. MENDEZ SAID THAT HE HAS BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH CONGRESSMEN KOCH, RAILSBACK AND DRINAN, ALL OF WHOM HAVE ALLEGEDLY PLEDGED TO HELP FACILITATE JUAN MENDEZ' ENTRANCE INTO THE US. HE ADDED THAT HIS SON HAS NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND HAS NO POLICE RECORD. MR. MENDEZ ALSO TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE RECEIVED A LETTER IN DECEMBER FROM CONG. KOCH IN WHICH THE CONGRESSMAN SAID HE INTENDED TO PRESENT A BILL IN THE 1977 CONGRESSIONAL SESSION TO RECOMMEND THE PAROLE PROGRAM BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ARGENTINE CITIZENS. (MR. MENDEZ IS AWARE THAT SUCH A STEP WOULD TAKE SOME TIME AND IS HOPEFUL THAT HIS SON CAN GET A REGULAR VISA TO THE US.)  
HILL

[REDACTED]  
NNN

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED